

DRAFT

Key Provisions and Clarification Executive Order 05-01

Executive Order 05-01 was signed in January 2005. The Order adopts goals and directs several actions to increase efficiency and the use of sustainable business practices in state operations. This document summarizes the goals and required actions, and also provides clarification for selection topics. The actions are separated into the following four areas (respective numbers on the Executive Order text are provided in parentheses). The requirements of the Executive Order are summarized in this document and the reader should refer to the Executive Order for the full list of actions and the complete text.

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/orders/archive.htm#locke>

- I. Incorporate Green Building Practices in all new construction projects and major remodels (#1 in the E.O.)
- II. Achieve a 20% reduction in petroleum use by 2009 (#2-4 in E.O).
- III. Reduce the lifecycle impacts of paper products (#5-6 in the E.O.)
- IV. Agencies shall achieve further gains in energy conservation (#7 in the E.O)

- I. **Incorporate Green Building Practices in all new construction projects and major remodels**
-

REQUIRED ACTIONS

1. All construction projects and major remodels over 25,000 square feet will be built and certified to the U.S. Green Building Council (LEED) Silver Standard, or an equivalent standard that recognizes forest products from forests regulated under the Washington Forest Practices Act.
2. For construction projects and major remodels between 5,000 and 25,000 square feet, GA will insure that green building performance standards consistent with the (LEED) Silver Standard are being applied. Certification will not be required.
3. Regardless of size, GA and other affected state agencies will develop processes and procedures to insure that green building practices are integrated into design and construction process for all new construction and remodels.

CLARIFICATION

- **Definition of a “green” building**

Green buildings are those designed to use energy and water efficient technologies, to provide healthy productive spaces for work and learning, and to tread lightly on the environment through the use of recycled content materials and sustainably harvested building materials.

- **Why the the US Green Building Council LEED standard was selected.**

The LEED standard is widely regarded and accepted as the preeminent green building standard. Adopting this standard offers the state several advantages, as opposed to developing our own unique version of a green building standard. Project developers have access to a rapidly growing number of LEED certified professionals in the building industry, well versed in the specifications of the standard. Utilities are also beginning to offer incentives to building projects that are built to LEED Silver standard or better (for example, Puget Sound Energy, Seattle City Light and Avista). The point system in the LEED standard also creates an incentive for materials which are locally processed.

- **Costs and benefits of building to a LEED Silver Standard**

Design and construction *premium* on a LEED Silver building is estimated at 0-2% for buildings over 25,000 square feet and certification costs will vary anywhere between \$2,500 to \$20,000.

The state spends over \$1 billion a biennium on the construction and renovation of buildings and associated infrastructure and approximately \$280 million on utilities (electric, water, sewer, gas). A LEED Silver building is expected to achieve a 30% annual savings in energy and water/sewer costs over its life. Additional benefits are expected in worker productivity (through increased use of daylighting and natural ventilation) and reduced impact on infrastructure.

- **How many buildings does the state build over 25,000 square feet?**

This figure will vary significantly from year to year. Governor Locke’s Capitol Budget for the 2005-07 biennium included approximately 62 buildings over 25,000 square feet, representing approximately 4.5 million square feet of occupied space and approximately 100 buildings between 5,000 and 25,000 square feet, representing 742,000 of occupied space.

- **Why not require LEED certification for all buildings?**

The costs of certification relative to total project costs are higher for smaller projects. While these costs are expected to decrease in the next several years, until this occurs we will strive to meet the performance standards of LEED for these smaller buildings, but not pursue certification.

II Achieve a 20% reduction in petroleum use by 2009

REQUIRED ACTIONS

1. Agencies shall freeze the purchase of any four-wheel drive sport utility vehicle. Those SUVs rated to achieve over 30 mpg, necessary for law enforcement or emergency response are exempt – agency directors may approve other exemptions consistent with criteria established by GA.
2. By September 1, 2009, state agencies shall replace standard diesel with a 20% biodiesel blend (B20). As soon as practicable, agencies will begin using a minimum 5% biodiesel blend.
3. Agencies shall give priority to the purchase of hybrid gas/electric and other fuel efficient/low emission vehicles.
4. Agencies shall give priority to the replacement of pre-1996 light duty vehicles with the goal of replacing all such vehicles within three years.
5. Agencies with over 100 light duty vehicles and professional fleet management shall submit a fleet management plan and report annually on progress.
6. Agencies with fewer than 100 light duty vehicles or without professional fleet management shall arrange to transfer vehicles to GA motor pool or contract with GA for management of vehicles.
7. Under statewide contract for car rentals from commercial vendors employees shall request first a fuel efficient, low emission vehicle.
8. OFM shall institute a fleet efficiency audit, to be completed by July 1, 2006.

CLARIFICATION

- **Why focus on petroleum use?**

The burning of fossil fuels for transportation activities represents one of the best opportunities for the state to reduce its contribution to greenhouse gases and air toxics and to also increase the efficiency of its operations. In our region, over 60% of the greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector.

In FY 2003, state agencies spent approximately \$12.6 million in gasoline purchases and drove an estimated 220 million miles on state business. We also burned 36 million gallons of diesel fuel, which includes operation of the state ferry system, and in the 01-03 biennium, paid \$27.7 million to reimburse employees for private automobile use. However, most agencies do not currently track or report fuel use or annual mileage and management of vehicles and travel procedures vary widely among agencies

- **What criteria will agency directors use to justify SUV purchases?**

The official criteria hasn't been adopted yet, but will likely be based on the following:

Four wheel drive sport utility vehicles can be justified when the primary assignment of the vehicle is to:

- ☐ operate on unimproved roads,
- ☐ operate off-road in mountainous terrain, or
- ☐ for immediate response in severe weather conditions for the safety of citizens or the environment

Driving in inclement weather on improved roads or highways is not justification for four-wheel drive. This includes traversing the Cascades during winter.

- **Does biodiesel have a cost premium?**

A blend of bio-diesel currently costs around 20% more than standard diesel, but this cost premium is expected to decline over time. There are currently three biodiesel plants in various stages of development in Washington State, and plans are underway to cultivate canola seed in state as feedstock.

A federal excise tax credit to blenders, passed earlier this year, could also help close the price gap. Theoretically this credit could bring the cost of biodiesel to roughly equal that of standard diesel, depending on how much is invested in infrastructure and how much passed on to the consumer.

- **What do fleet management plans have to do with efficiency and sustainability?**

The requirement for agencies to use professional vehicle fleet management and planning practices is necessary in order to achieve a more strategic approach to the acquisition, deployment, operation, maintenance, and disposal of vehicle fleets. Such a systematic approach makes it easier to identify and implement opportunities to change characteristics of fleet composition or standard operating practices in order decrease greenhouse gas emissions and also achieve operating efficiencies.

- **Does the directive to give priority to purchasing hybrid gas/electric vehicles mean we can ignore EPA standards?**

This executive order establishes a clear state policy to give priority consideration to highly fuel efficient/low emission vehicles rather than meeting EPA standards for alternative fuel vehicles. Agencies who are required to report to DOE should continue to do so. Expect further guidance and clarification from OFM and CTED on how we intend to handle compliance issues.

- **What's the definition for a high efficiency/low emission vehicle?**

A high efficiency/low emission vehicle is defined as one that achieves more than 30 miles per gallon in fuel efficiency and meets the federal EPA Tier 2 emission standards.

III Reduce the lifecycle impacts of paper products

GOALS to be achieved by 2009

1. Reduce the use of office paper by 30%, based on data reported in 2003 agency "sustainability plans."
2. Increase the percentage of environmentally preferable office paper purchased to at least 50%. Environmentally preferable paper is defined as 100% recycled content paper, with a minimum of 50% post consumer waste.
3. Recycle 100% of used office paper.
4. Increase use of post consumer recycled and non-chlorine bleached products in janitorial paper products.

REQUIRED ACTIONS

1. Office paper purchased by state agencies must have a minimum of 30% post consumer recycled content.
2. The Department of Printing will lead a taskforce to recommend efficiency improvements for the management of printers and copiers in state agencies to help reduce paper use.
3. The Department of Ecology will provide best management practices for paper selection, reduction and recycling, and provide training to agencies.
4. The Department of General Administration will lead state agencies, colleges and universities in a collaborative effort to establish a regional paper bid proposal for environmentally preferable (EP) paper in order make EP paper available at a competitive price.

CLARIFICATION

- **How will agencies achieve a 30% reduction in paper use?**
The Department of Ecology will be leading the effort to educate agencies on best practices for reducing paper use. Common strategies include setting printers and copiers to default double-sided copies, shifting to electronic storage ...
- **How much can agencies expect to save?**
Reduced use of paper results in decreased purchase costs and reduced cost of handling -- purchase costs are estimated to represent only 10% of the cost associated with paper usage. Savings are also expected through efficiencies in print fleet management (the use of copiers and printers). For example, one agency is saving \$10-15,000 month after a comprehensive overhaul of their print fleet. The Department of Printing will be leading the effort to educate agencies on best practices for print fleet management.

Agencies can also benefit from no-cost recycling of paper, and, possibly generate revenue from clean waste paper streams. For example, the Department of Ecology saves \$3,500/year with such a no-cost contract.

- **Is EPP paper available? Isn't it more expensive than paper with 30% recycled content?**
Several mills in the Pacific Northwest are currently producing paper with 100% recycled content, one of which is located in Grays Harbor. Costs are currently approximately 30% higher than paper with only 30% recycled content, but this cost premium is expected to decrease over time. GA will be leading an initiative to join with other large purchasers in an effort to leverage better prices. Agencies are encouraged to explore opportunities to fund purchase of EPP Paper with savings from paper reduction activities.
- **Why are these requirements needed?**
The environmentally preferable Paper specified in the Executive Order increases use of recycled product. If the virgin paper currently purchased by state agencies were replaced by 100% recycled paper, we would save approximately 14,000 pulp trees, 6 million gallons of water, 50,000 of air pollutants, 3.5 million kilowatt hours of energy and 2,500 cubic yards of landfill space.

Under RCW 43.191A the minimum standard for state purchase of paper products is 30% post consumer waste. Despite this law nearly, one-third of office paper purchased by state agencies is virgin content chlorine bleached paper, with no recycled content.

IV Agencies shall achieve a further gains in energy conservation

REQUIRED ACTIONS

By September 1, 2009, state agencies shall reduce energy purchases by 10% from FY 2003, using all practicable, cost effective means available, including energy efficiency programs and the use of on site renewable resources.

CLARIFICATION

- **Haven't agencies already reduced energy by 10%?**
State agencies were required to reduce energy use by 10% in 2001 –agencies have generally made good progress towards this directive and through their efforts have achieved multiple benefits for the state. In the first year alone electricity savings of 50 million kWh reduced government energy costs by \$3 million. In addition to saving energy and dollars agencies have also helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to global warming. The first year energy savings reduced CO2 emissions by 39,000 tons, which is equivalent to removing 5,000 cars from the road or planting 10,000 trees.

However, there is still significant potential for cost effective energy savings within state government. Agencies are directed to use 2003 as a baseline year and adopt measures to achieve an additional 10% energy reduction by the year 2009.